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JAY JAKUB, STAFF DIRECTOR

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE
WORKING GROUP ON TERRORISM AND HOMELAND SECURITY

June 22, 2001

Mr. Dan L. Crippen
Director
Congressional Budget Office
H2-405 Ford House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Crippen:

The issues of counterterrorism and homeland security have increasing relevance to the congressional debate on national security issues. Unfortunately, these appear to be areas where there is insufficient insight into the totality of federal government activities and spending. In fact, it is not clear which congressional committees oversee which portions of the federal budget devoted to these matters. Therefore, the Working Group on Terrorism and Homeland Security requests that the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) undertake a comprehensive analysis of the budgets for terrorism and homeland security.

To begin, we request that the CBO review the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) FY01 report on combating terrorism. Using that report as a guide, please provide a breakdown of the amounts recommended for authorization by committee, and the amounts recommended for appropriations by each subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee for the President's FY01 budget request. We understand that current data collection will permit only an approximation of the current breakdown by committee jurisdiction. Therefore, we further request that CBO provide suggestions for improvements that could be made to OMB's data collection, and what additional resources might be needed for those improvements, so that a more detailed budget data analysis can be provided in the future.

Finally, we request that the CBO provide an interim briefing on its review within the next few months, with a final product to follow as soon as possible thereafter.

Mr. Dan L. Crippen
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Please feel free to contact Jay Jakub or Wyndee Parker of the Intelligence Committee staff at (202) 225-4121 if you or your staff have questions related to this request.

Sincerely,


Saxby Chambliss
Chairman


Jane Harman
Ranking Democrat